



Understanding Islamic Etiquette

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Workshop Agreements

Cell on Silent

Timeliness

Confidentiality

Create a respectful learning
environment

Agenda



- Welcome/Pretest
- Introduction/Icebreaker
- Brief Islamic Information
- Part 1 Topic: Projection
- Part 2 Topic: Etiquette
- Questions & Answers
- Break
- Part 3 Topic: Home Visitation
- Questions & Answers
- Conclusion/Posttest



Welcome

And

Pretest

Please take a moment and complete the pretest to gauge your knowledge of Islamic Culture.



Icebreaker

Getting to know our inner selves...

What's your favorite television or movie theme song?

What do you feel it says about who you are?



Introduction

The greater Sacramento County region is home to one of the Nation's largest growing Muslim communities. Sacramento's famed diversity makes for a welcoming environment.

Due to the rise of Muslim families in the area, service providers are often left struggling to provide services in an effective manner while being culturally sensitive and inclusive.



Icebreaker

Getting to know our inner selves...

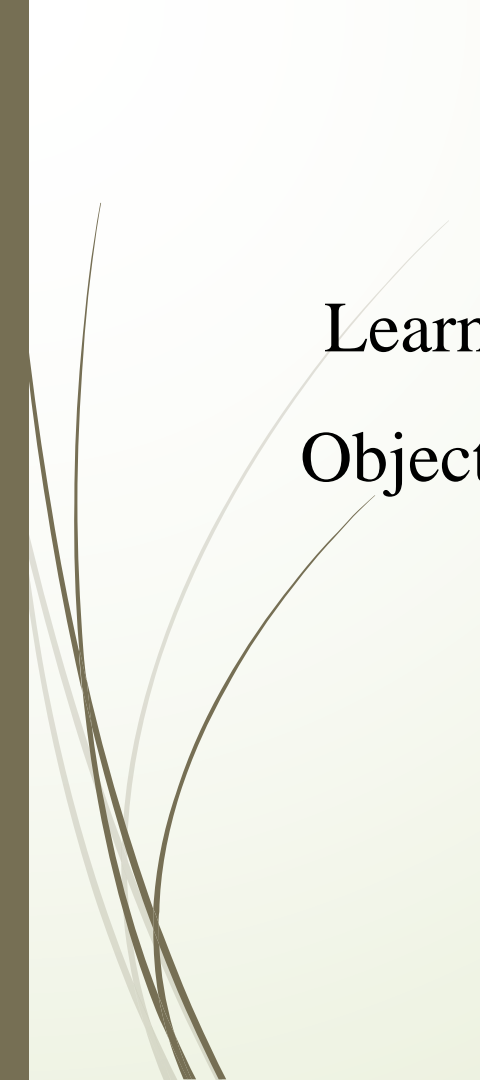
What's your favorite television or movie theme song?

<https://youtu.be/DhlPAj38rHc>

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What do you feel it says about who you are?



Learning Objectives

The goals of this workshop are to:

1. Give you an overview of Life in Islam.
1. Equip you with tools to better engage with Muslim families.
1. Examine and begin to deal with any bias practices.
1. Share tools and strategies for an effective and sustainable approach to culturally responsive services.


What is the difference between: Islam Islamic Muslim



Islam is the name of a religion. The Arabic word “Islam” is based on the root “slm,” which means peace or surrender to God. Combining both translations results in the combined meaning “the state of peace through following God’s guidance.”

Islamic is an adjective that modifies a non-human noun, as for example, “Islamic art,” “Islamic architecture,” “Islamic beliefs,” etc. This term should not be used to refer to a person.

A follower of Islam is called a Muslim, someone who fully submits to the will and guidance of Allah (God)



Types of Muslims

There are roughly 50 types of different Islamic beliefs within the religion.

The two most prominent are:

Sunni - 84%-90%

Shiite - 10%-16%

Other Islamic sect:

Sufis

Baha'is

Ahmaduyyas

Druze

Alawis

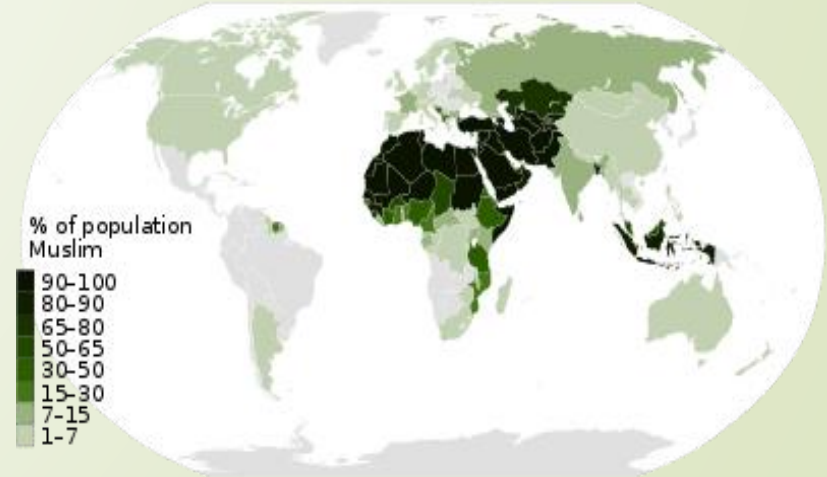
Muslims World Wide

Of the 7 billion people in the world, 22%, or 1.6 billion are Muslim.

*87.2% of Muslims are in Indonesia

*11.0% of Muslims are in Pakistan

*10.9% of Muslims are in India

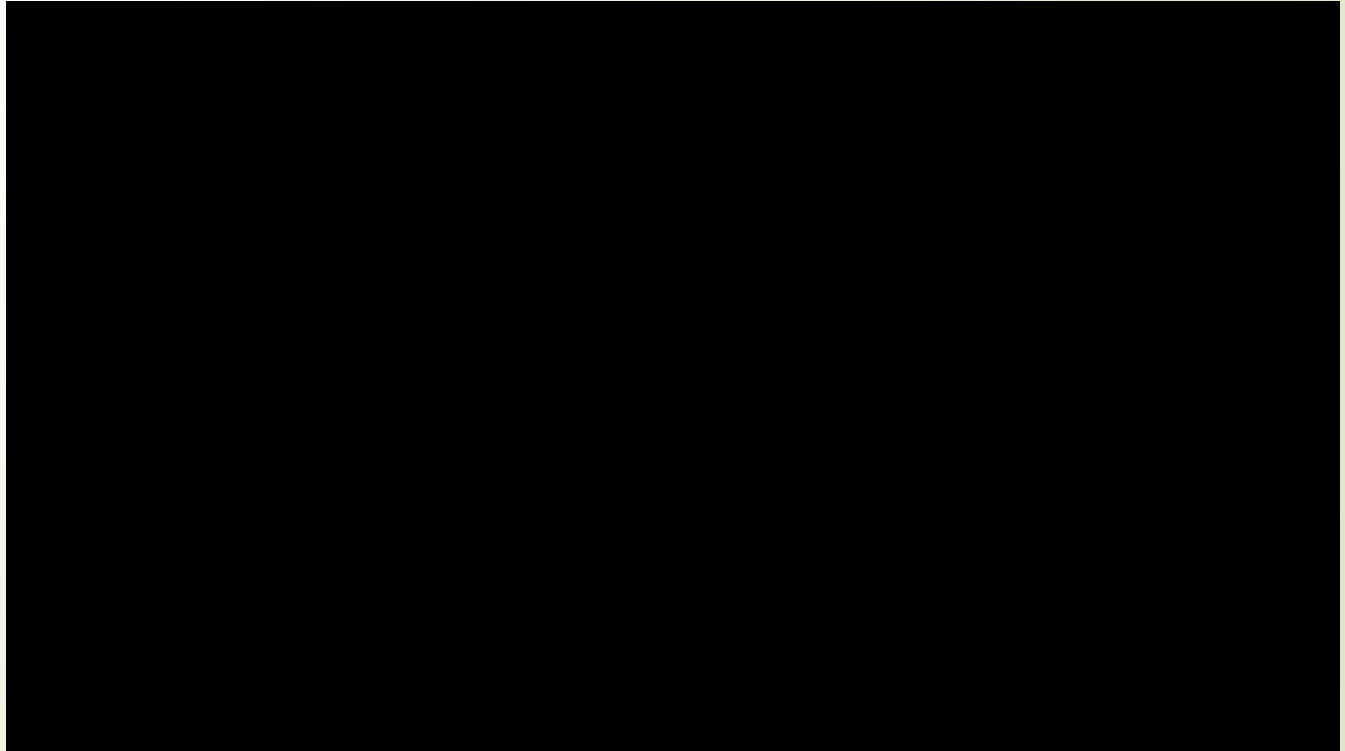



A look at

Growing up Muslim by

Ahamed Weinberg

Video





Racial & Cultural Bias

Racial and cultural Bias is defined as:

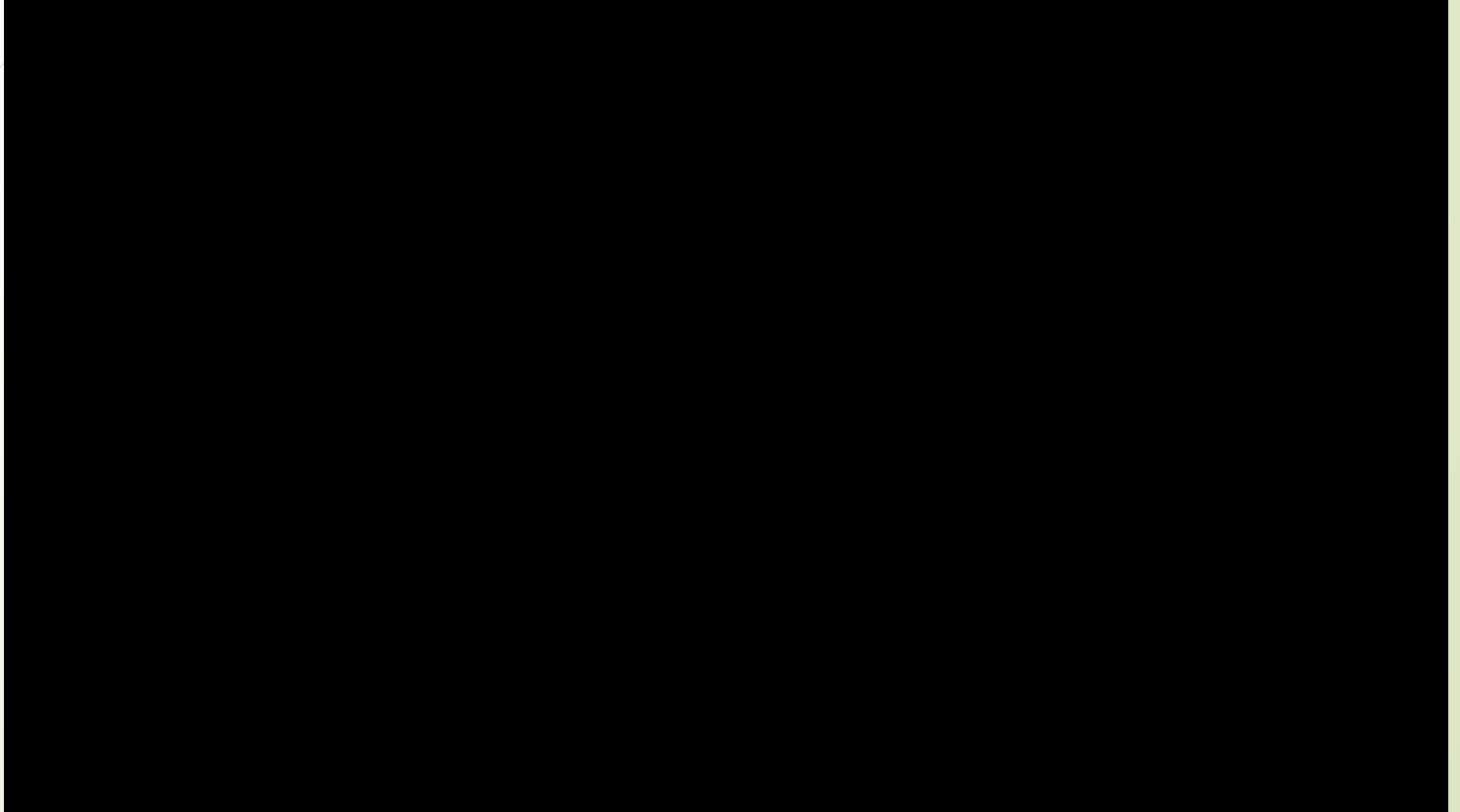
The sum of attitudes, customs and beliefs that distinguishes one group of people from another. It refers to the attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner.

(Dictionary.com)

Guess
who's
Muslim?

Video

Video






Ethnocentrism

Ethnocentrism is judging another culture solely by the values and standards of one's own culture. This stems from a superior attitude or stamp of privilege.

Every culture on earth tends to do this unintentionally. Cultural aspects such as myths, songs, rituals tend to promote the superiority of one's culture over that of another.

Example: the way American parents discipline their children is better than other parents.




Understanding Interdependence and Independence in Families

Interdependence: the dependence of two or more people on each other.

In families of diverse cultures, often multiple generations will live under the same roof.

Children are raised to rely on their parents, grandparents, and extended family.



Etiquette in the Home

In general, avoid public displays of affection, criticism of others, and losing your patience. Do not take someone's photo without first asking permission. All of these are view as rude and disrespectful.



Greeting Gestures

Greetings are different across cultures. Usually gestures take place between members of the same sex. Example: women greet women and men greet men.

Women: may side kiss the cheek 2-3 times with another woman or hug. If shaking a hand, it is common for the hand to be limp non aggressive. With a visitor, women may not physically touch but smile and nod.

Men: may side kiss the other man's cheek 2-3 times or hug. It is custom to hold the handshake longer than expected in Western culture between men.

Traditional greeting between Muslims is Assalamu alaikum (peace be upon you) to which the response is wa alaikum salaam (and unto you peace).



Understanding

Names

Names say a great deal about a person. They speak to a person's ancestry and where they are from family/tribal/dynastic name.


Names have meanings. They can suggest a person's development of sound social behavior for example:

One of the most widely used word is *ta'lim* from the root word 'alima meaning (to know, to be aware, to perceive, to learn)

Example: Kalima, Halima

Common men's names: Mohammad, Ahmad or Abdul

Naming a child has a process that involves the complete person, including the rational, spiritual, and social dimensions




Understanding the family structure

The family is the single most important unit in Islamic Culture.

Men and women's roles are defined along traditional lines.

Women are generally responsible for balance within the household structure for her husband and children

Men usually focus on maintaining the family's financial needs and protection of the home.



Male and Female Interactions

It is important to know that men and women usually don't greet each other in public if they are not from the same family. Men also avoid eye contact with women they are not related to.

When a non family member (male) is attempting to speak with a married woman, address her husband first with an introduction. He will introduce you to her. At this time it is important for the Home Visitor to address both parents equally as a family unit. Refrain from direct eye contact to the wife.

Women Home Visitors should address the women first, then she will introduce you to husband. The husband may stay nearby and off to the side but not directly in conversation. In this situation, continue to address both parents equally. The husband will interject when needed independently.



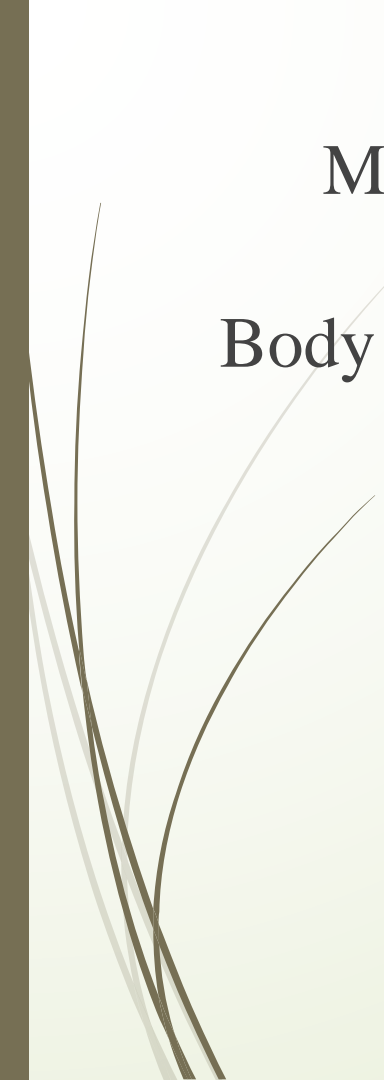
Manners

Often, Western communication styles are seen as too direct or impatient.

Personal space is less of an issue for most Muslims. People of the same gender often stand fairly close to each other and touch is common.

When speaking with a woman (male visitor), the space is often increased.

When eating, do not touch anything with your left hand. The left hand is used to clean bodily excrements and viewed as unclean. The right hand is the clean hand used for eating, shaking hands etc.



Manners and Body Language

Why do Muslims avoid direct eye contact with the opposite sex?

Eye contact (gazing) gives insight to one's soul, a place of vulnerability, a openness to personal involvement

Eye gaze reveals cues of interest, attention, affiliation, intimacy, approval, dominance, and aggression. Due to these reasons, Muslims avert eye contact or gazing.

Questions and Answers






Break

Time

10 minutes



Impact on home visitation

1. How do cultural bias and ethnocentrism impact Home Visitation?
2. How do we self evaluate our intentions and emotions when recognizing this behavior in ourselves?
3. What are ways to overcome this behavior?




Home Visitation: gaining entry

Politeness dictates that when a gift or offering is made, in this case, the offering of home visitation services, a person is obligated to accept the offering, whether they really want it or not. It would be rude to turn it down.

While the family may have agreed when the service was offered, they more than likely don't actually want the intrusion into their lives and daily routine.

Lived experience has taught most that strangers are dangerous and not to be trusted. Concern for being judged and unjustly labeled is at the root of most the hesitation.



General Guidelines for Visiting

Show respect for elders by greeting them first and stand up when they enter a room.

Accept the offer of any food or drink - it is offensive not to.

Never show the bottoms of your feet or your shoes to others - this is seen as rude

Refrain from:

- Pointing at anyone. - keep your hand flat and gesture instead.
- Staring at women.
- Snooping or looking through things.



Basics: Clothing

Dress modestly for home visitation.

Wear clothes covering shoulders and knees at a minimum. - no tank tops, off the shoulder shirts, shorts, or short skirts.

Avoid clothing with inappropriate logos, saying or art work.

No tight clothing.

Wear shirts long enough to cover your leggings to mid thigh.

Bring socks to cover feet



Basics:

Entering the Home

Knock respectfully - not too loud or in a hurried manner.

Enter and leave the house with the right foot.

Refrain from:

- Looking through windows to see if someone is home.
- Immediately entering the home - wait until you are invited in.
- Pushing the door or violently slam it shut.



Basics:

Entering the Home

Try to remove your shoes at the entrance.
(shoes will be made ready for you by the children when you are ready to leave)

Try to sit next to a person of the same gender unless your host suggests otherwise.

Try not to sit with your legs stretched out - it is considered rude.

Basics:

Food

Halal - any object or an action which is permissible to use or engage in. Usually refers to food.

In general every food is considered halal in Islam unless it is specifically prohibited in the Qur'an.

Halal foods are:

1. Free from any component the Islamic law prohibits Muslims to eat
2. Processed, made, produced, manufactured and/or stored according to Islamic law.

Quick list of non allowed foods: alcoholic drinks, Jello or anything containing gelatin, and carnivorous animals or birds.

Basics:

Traditional Islamic Clothing

The main article of clothing worn by Muslim women is called Hijab.

It translates into English as veil. It is worn on the head and usually covers the neck and shoulders.

It is worn to protect both their private lives from outsiders and to protect their own honor.





Scheduling Concerns

Several factors can influence and effect when you are able to schedule a home visit.

These include:

Prayer time

Fasting

Muslim Holidays

Visit between:

9 am to 11 am or 2 pm to 4 pm.



Islamic
Special
Days
2018

Be mindful when scheduling visits and try to avoid these days.

Wednesday May 16
 Ramadan 2018

Monday June 04
 Laylat Al Qadr

Friday July 15 Eid
Al Fitr

Tuesday August 21 Eid
Al Adha

Tuesday September 11
 Muharram

Wednesday September 19

Islamic Special Days

Explained

Ramadan - Holy month of fasting

Laylat Al Qadr - the night when the first verses of the Quran were revealed to the prophet

Eid Al Fitr - festival marking the end of Ramadan

Eid Al Adha - feast honoring obedience to God

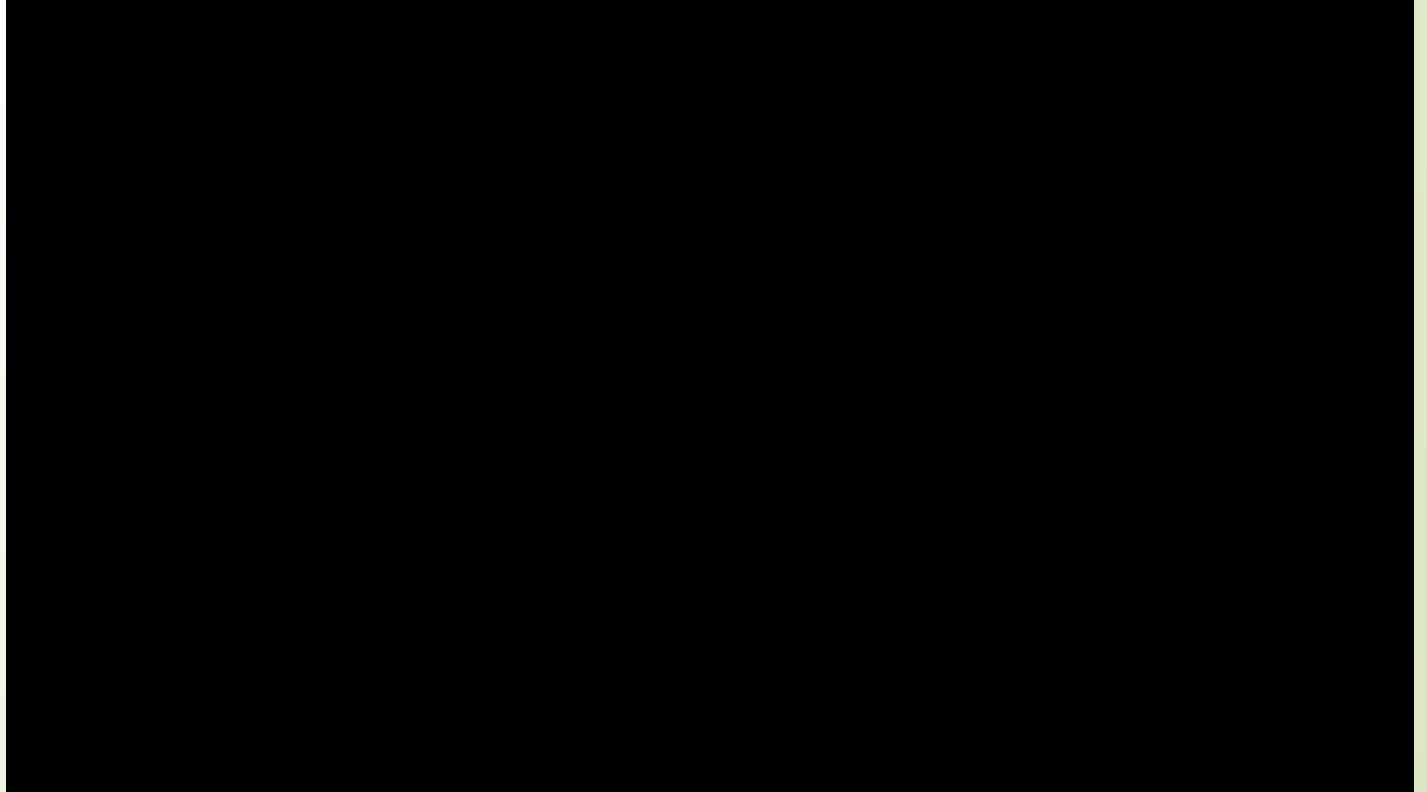
Muharram - Islamic New Year

Ashura - Solemn day of mourning

Adhan:

Call to Prayer

The adhan (call to prayer) rings out for each of the five daily prayers.





Ramadan

Muslim Holy Month

What?

- Fasting from food and drink during sunlit hours (predawn to sunset)*

Why?

- A means of learning self-control, gratitude and compassion for those less fortunate.
- Heightened focus on devotion, reading the Qur'an and performing special prayers.

*Exempt from fasting: pregnant or nursing women, the sick, elderly, and children



Ramadan

Daily

Routine

The month long fast begins on the evening of Wednesday, May 15 and continues until the evening of Thursday, June 14.

Typical daily routine:

- Family rises about 5:00 am, before dawn and eats modest breakfast like meal called *suhur* then performs morning prayer
- Naps are often taken in the late afternoon.
- At sunset the fast is broken with a light snack, usually dates and water.
- After performing the sunset prayers, the family eats dinner.
- Many families then go to their local mosque for night prayer and return home around 11:45 pm.



Prayer Times

Fajr Daily Prayer Times:

Dawn: 4:30 am

Sunrise: 6:00 am

Zuhr - midday: 1:00 pm

Asr - afternoon: 5:00 pm

Maghrib - sunset: 8:00 pm

Isha - night: 9:30 pm

Times are listed generally.

There are actually specific times based on the lunar cycle.




Bridging Gaps

The best way to bridge the gap between cultures is to educate yourself on the beliefs, customs, and habits of other cultures with an open mind.

Ask questions in a respectful manner.

Show genuine interest in what they have to share.

Be open to new experiences and ideas.



Major Concerns

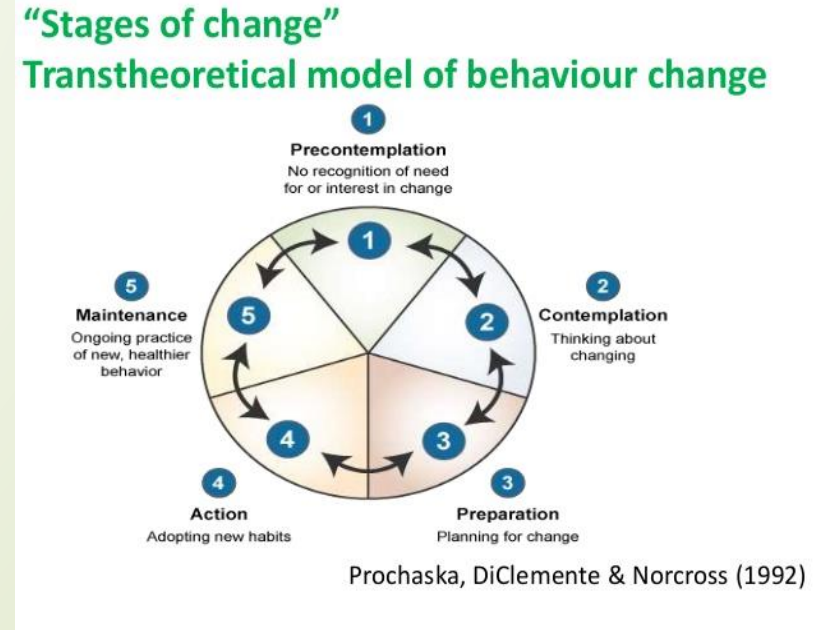
Families are worried that their children will become Americanized.

Worried that children will reject the Islamic heritage in favor of western ways.

Worried that children will reject their culture and the values of their native countries.

Home Visitation: Accepting Services

Understanding family cycle of change in receiving and adapting to Alta services (using Transtheoretical model: stages of change as conceptual visualization.)





Home Visitation: Sensitivity

How to be culturally sensitive when promoting independence of the family's loved one.

Linking:

- Self-determination
- Communal ideologies with cohesiveness

Final
Questions
&
Answers





Additional Resources:

Understanding Islam

<http://www.islamicity.org/8304/understanding-islam-and-muslims/>

Ramadan Etiquette

<https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/ramadan-non-muslims-etiquette-guide/index.html>